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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 389. MARCH, 1939.

SABELLIAN. ARIAN. SOCINIAN.

"Included in 'Unitarian' "—GORDON.

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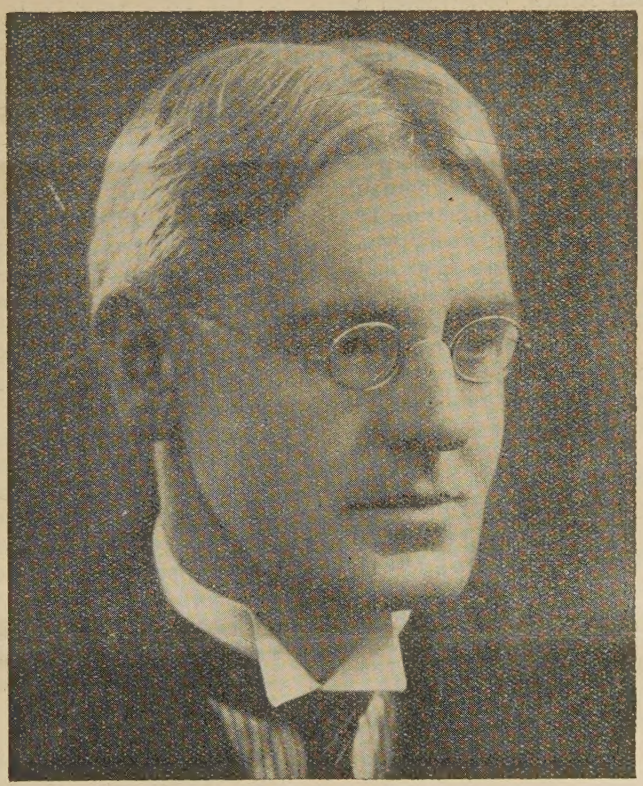

THE REV. R. F. RATTRAY, M.A., PH.D.
RETIRING PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, LONDON.

NOTES AND NEWS.

By courtesy of the Secretary of the General Assembly we are able to present this month the portrait of the Rev. Dr. Rattray, whom many of our readers will know, and who have very pleasant recollections of his visits. He is well known to the public in general as the President of the National Band of Hope Union. The following items are taken from the "Year Book." " obert Fleming Rattray, Ed. Glas. Univ, 1904-8, M.C.O. 1908-11, 1911-12; Marburg, 1912; Harvard, 1912-13; Hibbert Scholar, 1911-13; M A (Glas., 1908). Ph.D., (Harvard, 1913); Assistant Minister, Liverpool, Ullet Road, 1913-15; Minister Hindley, 1915-17, Leicester, Great Meeting, 1917-21; Acting Principal, University College, Leicester, 1921-23; Principal, 1923-31; Minister, Cambridge, 1931--."

* * *

Sabellius (A.D. 250-260) a native of Ptolemais in Northern Africa, constructed a system, which, by his opponents was considered to have struck at the very foundations of Christian belief. Only fragments, impossible to make into a complete whole, remain; but, the outcome of it was that the word "person," was taken to be equal to "mask" or "manifestation," and Broad Churchmen have made use of it, as their explanation of the Trinity. Evidently, that in itself, was not so much the heresy, as that God had assumed first one and then another "manifestation" at different periods in succession. Out of this sprang Arianism. *Arius*, who held a parish in Alexandria, was a rival with another presbyter Alexander, for the bishopric, and Arius brought the charge of Sabellianism against Alexander, he himself, maintaining that the Son was inferior to the Father; thus starting a controversy, the echo of which still remains until this day. Over 1000 years after this, in 1546. Laelius and Faustus *Socinius*, formed a society in Northern Italy, which extended through Eastern Europe. Whatever their intention in the beginning, a purely humanitarian doctrine concerning Jesus arose out of Socinianism. Some of the older generation still speak of Unitarians as Humanitarians.

* * *

In the Lower House of Convocation of York, on January 19th, the resolution was approved:—We are convinced that the wise course is not to proscribe the interpretation in addition to the standard itself, but to lay, as we who undertake the task of interpretation do, the obligation of always maintaining the integrity of mind and sincerity of conscience, together with reverence for the continuous tradition of the Church." The Non-Subscribing position has always been that of "maintaining the integrity of mind and sincerity of conscience," hence "The Rights of Conscience Fund."

* * *

By resolution of the Synod, congregations are reminded of the Advisory Committee which has been formed, to give advice in legal matters with reference to trusts, bequests, etc. Complications occasionally arise, which might be avoided by timely advice. Apply to the Clerk of Synod, the Rev. J. Dare Davies, Moneyrea, Comber.

* * *

We have been favoured with a copy of the York Street Annual Report. The cover is illustrated with a photograph of the New Gallery in the Lecture Hall. The Report refers to the fact that the total of Stipend and Collections has increased from about £30 in 1922 to £500 in 1938. We can only congratulate the people of York Street on their amazing progress and wonder what might have been had they had the space and the resources of more favoured Churches. We observe that Rev. Professor Davey will have spoken at the Fellowship before these words appear in print and hope that Non-Subscribers will be present in large numbers. Time was when prejudice and misunderstanding had put a complete circle round our Churches. It is too much to expect that it will be broken down in our time. Dr. Agnew has done much and made our position known to hundreds who at one time would never have dreamed of entering a Non-Subscribing Church and if not for his sake in honour of broadminded Ministers who are willing to assist him, we feel that our people should rally on occasions of this kind.

* * *

April, 1939, number published on March 25th Copy sent in before March 18th will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

* * *

PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. W. Eakin, 103 Greenore Street, Belfast.

ROSEMARY STREET CHURCH, BELFAST.

ORDINATION.

The Rev. Reginald W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., was ordained minister of First Presbyterian Church, Rosemary Street, Belfast, on February 3rd. With Mrs. Wilde, he was honoured by a reception in the Central Hall in the evening.

The Moderator of Antrim Presbytery (the Rev. G. V. Crook) presided at the ordination service, and offered the opening prayer. The Rev. C. J. Montgomery, M.A., preached the sermon, and the Rev. A. L .Agnew, B.A., D.D., gave the exposition of Presbyterianism. The prescribed questions to the candidate and the congregation were put by the Moderator.

The Rev. J. Shaw Brown offered the ordination prayer, after the following form:—

"Let us first of all seek the blessing of God on what we undertake to do this day."

We praise Thy name for all pure and acceptable worship offered unto Thee in this Church in the days that are past.

We praise Thy name for every faithful word of Thy servants in the pulpit, and for every sacrifice of consecrated hearts in the pew.

O Thou who art ever more willing to bless, than we are to seek Thy blessing, let Thy consecrating presence be with us on this day of days and in the days to come. Bless minister and people coming up hither week by week. May they be knit together in the bonds of love and sympathy—Our Father. . . . .

Let us now with the authority of the Ancient Presbytery of Antrim, and by the symbolic laying on of hands, proceed to ordain our brother in Christ to the sacred ministry of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland in general, and to the ministerial service of this Church in particular.

Eternal God, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, let Thy consecrating spirit be upon us and upon Thy servant, whose calling and election to the ministry of this Church we have met to recognise and honour.

We praise Thy name for the gifts and graces with which Thou hast endowed him, for the learning which Thou hast enabled him to acquire. Amid praise and blame may he be faithful to his high calling. And at the last when his day and work is done may he be able to look into the Master's face as a good workman that needeth not to be ashamed. Now, unto Him, who is able to keep us from falling, the only wise God our Saviour be glory and honour, dominion and power for ever and ever.—Amen.

The charges to the minister and congregation were delivered by the Rev. H. Hall and the Rev. J. Begg, respectively. The newly-ordained minister offered the closing prayer.

A luncheon in the Central Hall was attended by representatives of other denominations. Mr. T. H. McMurray, chairman of the Church Committee, presided.

After the toasts of the King and the Governor of Northern Ireland had been honoured, the chairman proposed "The Government of Northern Ireland," and Mr. J. H. Robb, K.C. (Minister of Education), responded. Mr. G. G. Davies proposed "The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland," and Dr. Agnew replied. The Moderator also responded to the toast of "The Presbytery of Antrim," which was honoured on the proposition of the Rev. J. G. Davies.

"Kindred Religious Bodies and Other Guests" was proposed by the Rev. A. G. Peaston, and the Rev. D. Frazer-Hurst, M.A., replied. The Rev. J. Shaw Brown proposed the health of the newly-ordained minister, and Mr. Wilde responded. The chairman acknowledged the toast of "First Presbyterian Church," proposed by the Rev. J. McCleery, B.A.

EVENING PROGRAMME.

The reception to Mr. and Mrs. Wilde, in the Central Hall, attracted a very large attendance.

Following the introduction of Mr. Wilde by the chairman (Mr. T. H. McMurray), the Rev. Gordon D. Erskine, B.A., B.D., of Rosemary Street Presbyterian Church, said the relations between the two congregations were very friendly and he hoped that state of affairs would continue. He thought Mr. Wilde would find the

Northern Irish people staunch, loyal and true. They of the ministry should be grateful that they had in that part of the country a people who were still attached to religion and devoted to the Church.

The Rev. A. Cairns, M.A., Ph.D., of Donegall Street Congregational Church, joining in the welcome, said he wished Mr. Wilde a long and prosperous ministry, and for the congregation great happiness and prosperity.

Mr. Wilde expressed gratitude for the welcome he had received. He was glad that among those present were ministers and members from churches other than the Non-Subscribing Church. It was Christian fellowship that prompted their attendance.

Speaking particularly to the congregation of the church, Mr. Wilde said he hoped their journey together would be with friendship, which would ripen into love.

A letter of good wishes was received from the Rev. H. J. Rossington, a former minister of First Presbyterian Church, now of the Church of the Messiah, Birmingham.

An enjoyable programme, arranged by Mr. Albert Taylor, organist of the church, was contributed by Miss Anne Duthie (soprano), Miss L. Victoria Gordon (contralto), Miss Mary Black (elocutionist), Mr. J. A. Laird (baritone), and Mr. David Houston (tenor), with Mrs. Violet E. Taylor as accompanist.

Thanks to the ladies who dispensed tea and to the artistes were returned by Mr. John Wilkinson, seconded by Mr. C. J. McKisack. The chairman was thanked for presiding by Mr. R. McCrum, seconded by Mr. J. A. Laird.

S. & J. HEWITT

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SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The following are the Subjects for the Essay Competition for 1939:—

1. "Tell the story of Gideon."
2. "Why do we hold Harvest Festivals."
3. "The Story of our English Bible."
4. The Hymn—"A little Kingdom, I possess, Where thoughts and feelings dwell, etc."
   No. 51, in the Scholars' Hymn Book—What does this hymn teach us?
5. Why be honest and truthful?
6. The meaning of the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

A Special Prize is offered for an Essay on the subject—"What do we owe to the Jewish Race?"

Competition for this Essay is open to all **young people** connected with the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland, whether or not they are members of the **Sunday** School.

Essays are to be written on one side of paper only.

Name, age, and the Sunday School the competitor attends are to be written on front page, **which must contain nothing else**—front page to be detachable.

Essays of competitors over twelve years of age must be of not less than 500 words.

Essays are to reach me not later than Tuesday, 16th May, 1939.

REV. J. GLYNNE DAVIES,
The Manse,
Comber, Belfast.

R. W. MOFFETT & CO.

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ESTIMATES FREE.

1 BOWNESS ST. & McCANDLESS ST., BELFAST.

"When I'm a man shall I stop growing at both ends?"

"Yes, dear."

"H'm; then I suppose I shall start growing in the middle like Daddy?"

—The Schoolmaster.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"SUSTENTATION FUND."

To the Editor of the N.S.P. Magazine.

Dear Sir,—Once again I encroach on your space to advocate help for our Sustentation Fund.

No other Fund in our denomination is more economically administered, and it is the one Fund on which our weaker congregations rely as a basis for their minister's income. My Committee's present objective is to be able to pay each minister at least one pound a week in addition to their Church stipend, to do this we require a decided increase in Capital.

If over 3,000 stipend payers would raise £4,000 for this Fund this could be accomplished. A little denial on every-one's part and it can be done.

An average of 6d. per week for one year from every member would raise something like the amount required.

Here is an opportunity for the young people in our congregations to show us elders, what they can do for their Church and its future. Some years ago we had a Unity Guild who regularly contributed to our Fund. Let our young people in each congregation get together and work towards attaining the sum required.

To our elder members, especially those who are settling their affairs, I would earnestly appeal to consider this Fund in bequests. We are a comparatively small body, no longer are any rich families connected with us that could give us generous support, so all legacies no matter how small strengthen the Church and what it stands for. Please remember.

Yours,
HENRY J. F. ORR,
Convener.

THE N.S. PRESBYTERIAN.

Sir, — The Non-Subscribing paper which you edit so capably and selflessly, I consider a very useful asset to our Churches and Church life—giving the news of the activities that take place in all our centres, and other most valuable information. Its great value is in keeping touch—especially where there is a vacant pulpit for a long period—this has been exemplified here in our own experience—and the existence of this monthly visitor has a wonderful effect in keeping our members in contact and sympathy with one another.

JOSEPH NEWMAN,
Hon. Secy., Downpatrick.

A SUGGESTION.

Dear Sir,—At the last ministers' meeting a very practical suggestion was put forward by one of the members; it was to the effect that a room should be rented and maintained by the Association of Non-Sub. Pres., as a club-room, or rest room, for members of our various congregations.

To us who live in town, the need may not seem so great, but to members of our country churches who come to town, and find themselves at a loose end for an hour or so, the need is a pressing one.

The room would have to be central, and the most suitable place would be the Central Hall, Rosemary Street, and I feel sure that the Central Hall Committee would be only too pleased, in the interests of our denomination, to place a room at our disposal at a reasonable rent.

If the Association could not afford the cost of the upkeep of the room, could not a club be formed and a yearly subscription charged? The furnishing of the room would be no difficult matter, a few easy chairs and one or two writing tables, are all that is needed, which for sure some of our more wealthy members would give, if we asked them.

I understand from some of our older members, that the scheme has been mooted many times before, but that nothing has happened.

A rest room, or club room, is needed, I know that I should find it very useful, and I know that there are many more, who would be grateful, if there was one.

I do not know a better way of testing the feelings of the members of our body on the subject, than by writing into your paper. If the suggestion is felt to be a practicable one, or the scheme at all possible, and if we had sufficient backing, the matter could be brought up for discussion at our next Synod meeting.

Yours faithfully,
W. HOWARD PAYNE.

REPORTS.

Holywood. — Dr. R. L. Praeger's Lecture.—In spite of bad weather the School-room was well filled on Jan. 9., when Dr. Praeger gave a very interesting talk on geology with special reference to Down and Antrim. From the chair Mr. Montgomery welcomed Dr. Praeger as a native of Holywood, and took the opportunity of congratulating his sister, Miss S. Rosamund Praeger, who was present, on the inclusion of her name in the New Year's List of Honours.

It would be useless to attempt a resume of Dr. Praeger's lecture, but he mentioned that the grey rocks in the South of Down were of much greater antiquity than any of the rocks to be found in Antrim, and explained the processes by which the various rocks formed and assumed their relative positions. He spoke of the glacial period and showed how the action of the glaciers in carrying debris of carseoniferous rocks had rendered agriculture in Down possible. A vote of thanks to Dr. Praeger was proposed by Mrs. Henderson, and seconded by Miss Neill.

Sunday School Treat.—The Children's Christmas Treat was held on Friday, Jan 6, when about fifty Sunday School children sat down to tea generously provided by members of the congregation, and served by the S.S. teachers and friends. All were glad to see Mr. Montgomery, now restored to health, enjoying the party with the rest. Games followed tea. Parents and friends were invited for 8 p.m., when Carols were sung by the children; a fairy play: "The Wishing Tree," was presented by the junior members of the Sunday School. Gertrude Shannon sang "A Wild Rose" very sweetly, and Eileen and Clement Meneely 'did' the "Lambeth Walk," whilst the children heartily sang the song. "The Ould Lammas Fair" was also sung by the children. Miss Ena Meneely and Miss Molly Patterson were the accompanists. A large number of prizes including fourteen special prizes for perfect attendance, were distributed by the minister, Rev. C. J. Montgomery. Then Father Christmas arrived and gave every child a present from the magnificent Christmas Tree provided by the Misses Kennedy of Cultra Manor, following the custom for many years of their late parents, Sir Robert and Lady Kennedy.

Ballyhemlin. — Miss McKelvey, of Glastry House, Kircubbin, has made a gift of £5,000 to the Newtownards Hospital, for extensions and appliances in the Children's Ward, which will require at least £7,000.

Comber Young People's Guild. — The January meeting of the Guild proved very successful. There was a good gathering of members and friends. Competitions and games were held, in which great interest was taken. We were favoured with a visit from Mr. Harry Donnan, a promising young baritone who rendered several songs very effectively — the accompanist being Mrs. Smiley.

Dancing was indulged in, the music being provided by Mr. Heaney's Orchestra.

The February meeting was well attended in spite of the fact that some of our members had other engagements on that evening. The Misses Mitchell, of Ballydorn, sang a series of duets very beautifully. The blending of the voices was perfect, and the harmony was most pleasing. The Mitchell Male Quartette contributed several pieces which were greatly enjoyed. Theirs is a well-balanced combination, and they are sure to achieve great success in the near future. Miss Boyd, Mahee Island, played the accompaniments. We are grateful to all these young people for their visit and for their feast of song.

Games and dancing were enjoyed. The dance music was provided by Mr. Heaney's Orchestra.

Comber Women's League. — There was a very good attendance of members and friends to hear Miss McQueen, Matron of Ards District Hospital, give a very practical and timely talk on " Influenza—its types, symptoms and treatment." Mrs. Glynne Davies welcomed Miss McQueen back to Comber —the members having appreciated the talk she gave on "Accidents in the Home" last year. After tea an amusing sketch, "A Bow with Two Strings"

was played by the Misses Fitzroy, and the acting was skilful and thoroughly enjoyed.

The closing meeting will be on March 6th, at 7-45. Guests from the Belfast branches and Holywood have been invited to this closing social.

Ministers' Conference. — The 327th meeting was held at 150 King's Road, Belfast, on February 6th, 1939. The Rev. J. Barron was host. The Rev. J. A. Kelly was welcomed after his long illness, and a special welcome was given to the Rev. Reginald William Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., the newly-appointed minister of First Church, Belfast. Subject of discussion, was Isa. XIX, 24—"In that day shall Israel be third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the land, whom the Lord of Hosts shall bless saying, "Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance." A passage from an article in "The Listener."—"The Faith of Israel," based upon this passage of scripture formed the basis of a prolonged and animated discussion. The address which had been broadcast by H. M. J. Loewe, Reader in Rabbinics, Cambridge University, and dealt with the great scholar and philanthropist, Montefiore, who always put himself third, never first, and maintained that is a contribution of Israel's Faith to modern religion. Rabbinic sayings in the New Testament came up for discussion. The next meeting will be held on March 13th, at the Carlton, Donegall Place, Belfast.

All Souls', Belfast.—We have been forced to purchase a new piano for the Rosemary Hall, and the lighting system has to be completely overhauled. The piano, which has been purchased, has cost £40; the cost of rewiring will cost nearly as much; we have a very heavy overdraft at the Bank, so again this year we are appealing to make a special effort to meet this additional expenditure. Mr. W. T. Barry is starting the fund with a donation of £2. If you have any scheme in mind which will help us to raise the money we will be very grateful to hear of it. If you would like the use of the Hall for any purpose connected with the scheme, you can have it free of charge. May I make a suggestion to the men?—They were unable to carry out their plans for the Sale of Work. Would it not be possible for them to run a Whist or Bridge Drive?

The Ladies' Sewing Circle meets every 2nd Monday. They have decided in future to meet in each others houses. The meeting on Monday, February 13th, was held at Mrs. Kelly's, "Esk," Deramore Drive, and the following will be at Miss Carmichael's, 31 Maryville Park. The ladies would be grateful if there are other ladies free on Monday afternoons, who could go along and help them.—Calendar.

Women's League, Ulster District.—Members of the Ulster District are proud to record that one of their members was included in the "New Year Honours." We refer to Miss Praeger, R.H.A., M.A., M.B.E., a past president of the Holywood Branch. This is the second time in recent years that a member of the Holywood congregation has been so honoured. The former being the late Mrs. Harper, well-known in Belfast musical circles.

The quarterly meeting was held at the Mission, Stanhope St., on Monday, January 23rd, when about 80 members from various branches attended, although the weather was very unkind. A very helpful sermon was preached by Mrs. G. Davies of Comber, who conducted the services at 3 p.m.

Mrs. G. Gardiner, B.A., of Holywood, President of the Ulster District, presided over a meeting after tea, at which Miss R. Niell, of the Holywood Branch, gave a very interesting and much appreciated talk on a "Holiday in Iona."

A vote of thanks to the speakers, organist and tea-makers was proposed by Mrs. Whitehouse, of Oxford.—A.R.

Warrenpoint—On Tuesday evening, Feb. 14th, after a tea and short concert, a handsome gift of a beautiful forty-two piece china tea set, was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Brown by Mrs. McCleery to mark their recent marriage and as a token of high esteem. The proceedings closed with "Auld Lang Syne," and "God Save the King."

First Church, Belfast.—The Sunday School Prize Distribution took place on Friday, February 10th, commencing with tea at 7 p.m. At 8 p.m. a short play, "The Wishing Tree," was performed by a group of the younger scholars, under the direction of Miss Eileen McCafferty. Following this, the Prize Distribution ceremony was held. The gathering was presided over by Mr. J. McCrum (School Superintendent) and Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc. (the newly-ordained minister) presented the prizes. 28 prizes in all were distributed. Special mention should be made of five scholars, who had registered full attendance throughout the year, and were given special prizes. They were—Estelle Tate, Jim McCullough, Willie McKee, John Henderson, and Theo Henderson. The function was well attended by parents and scholars.

The Women's League continues to be active. The recently-formed Junior Branch is also doing good work. Senior and Junior Branches met on Wednesday, February 15th, for a joint social, one feature of which was a competition, "Awkward Moments," when each member present was asked to describe the most awkward moment she had ever experienced. A fine was imposed on those who abstained! The Junior Branch organised a Dance in the Central Hall, on Monday, February 20th. A small orchestra played for dancing which took place from 7-30 until midnight. The function—a new venture—was well attended.

The Minister's Morning Class at the Sunday School is at present studying "The Modern Approach to the Bible." Between 20 and 30 young people attend this class, which meets at 10-30. This hour before the morning service provides opportunity for profitable study and fellowship.

The Sunday afternoon Discussion Circle, which meets fortnightly at 3 o'clock, is also active. Recent meetings have seen a lecture by Mr. J. G. Blair on 'Social Credit;" a debate on "That private enterprise is an essential condition of Progress;" and a lecture by Mr. John Radcliffe on "Church and State."

The Rosemary Dramatic Society is in the final stages of rehearsal for a three-act comedy "Till Further Orders" (Wilfred Massey), which is to be presented in the Central Hall on Thursday and Friday, March 9th and 10th.

Templepatrick—A sad loss must be recorded. Samuel Robert McClay, a young man of promise, died almost immediately after having been wounded by a sniper in Palestine. He was a regular attender at both church and school until the time of enlistment. It is a great bereavement to his family. His father was killed in the Great War and this further loss is a great affliction. Expressions of sympathy have been numerous and sincere.

Glenarm.—The annual meeting of the Old Meeting House was held on January 29th, with the Minister in the chair. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. Robinson) reported increased attendances at the services during the year, and the financial statement furnished by the hon. treas. (Mr. James Robinson) showed a small credit balance. The Sunday School party and distribution of prizes took place in the schoolroom early in the year. After a bountiful tea, the children provided a programme of songs and recitations under the direction of Miss Lily Robinson. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Lockett. Two of the scholars gained special prizes for full attendances. Hearty games were played, and the children had a thoroughly good time. Thanks are due to Miss Galbraith and a willing band of helpers, for the organisation of the party.

Men's League.—A general meeting of the Men's League will be held in the Central Hall on the evening of March 14th, at 8 o'clock. Business:—Short meeting—for election of officers, sec., and afterwards Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., will give a talk—his subject being "Why do we Laugh?"

THE DIVINE WISDOM.

Eph. IV 20: "That is not how you have understood the meaning of 'Christ' (for it is Christ whom you have been taught, it is in Christ that you have been instructed—the real Christ who is in Jesus)." Moffat's translation, Col. I, 27: "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

OBITUARY.

We regret to have to record the death of Miss Pinnance, of Comber, who passed away on Friday, 27th January. Miss Pinnance was held in great esteem by a host of people. For many years she was Principal of Ballydorn Public Elementary School. Here she laboured with marked success until her retirement about twelve years ago. For over a quarter of a century she taught at our Comber Sunday School, where she won the esteem and affection of both scholars and teachers.

Miss Pinnance was constant in her attendance at the Church services and took a keen interest in all the affairs of her Church. Her presence will be sadly missed among us. Her remains were laid to rest in the family burial-ground in Killinchy, on Monday, 30th January. Her minister, the Rev. J. G. Davies, conducted the service both at her house in Castle Street, and at the graveside.

The Clough Church records with regret the passing of three of its members during the past month. Mr. W. J. Larmour had just retired from the position of Milk Inspector in Belfast, after long and faithful service. He had been a stipend payer for years and hoped to take up permanent residence in the district, to which he belonged. Miss Mary Shaw died a week later at the advanced age of 88 years. She was the oldest surviving member and was always deeply interested in the Church. In her will she bequeathed the sum of £50 to the funds of the Church. Lastly, Mr. W. J. Walls, the senior elder, died after a brief illness, at the age of 72. Of late years he had been unable to attend regularly his place of Worship but he never failed to fulfil his duties as senior elder, and his presence at our half-yearly Communion will be greatly missed. We offer our sympathy to the relatives in their bereavement.

CROOK — February 18, 1939. Passed home at his parents' residence, The Manse, Antrim, William McFarlane, son of Rev. George Vance and Mrs. Crook.

"God's finger touched him and he slept."

—Deeply mourned by Family.

MARRIAGE.

BROWN—LITTLE.

St. Elizabeth's Parish Church, Dundonald, Belfast, Jan. 18th, was the scene of a very pretty and interesting wedding, when Mr. Thomas John Brown, Press House, Warrenpoint, third son of the late Mr. Robert Brown, Glenadush, Dungannon, and the late Mrs. Ruth Brown, "Springfield," Warrenpoint, was married to Miss May Elizabeth Little, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jason Little, Rosewood, Dunleady, Dundonald, and niece of Mr. and Mrs. John Little, 12 Oxford Street, and Mount Pleasant House, Ballysillan, Belfast.

Well known in social circles, the bride has been a teacher in Ballymiscaw United Sunday School, whilst the bridegroom is a Director of the "Newry Telegraph," Ltd., an ex-member of Dungannon Urban District Council, a former vice-chairman of Warrenpoint Urban Council, and a member of the Committee of the First Presbyterian (Non-Subscribing) Church, Warrenpoint, and is a brother of the Rev. W. R. Brown, St. Giles United Church, Vancouver, and Mr. James Brown, Sherburn, Warrenpoint, M.P. for South Down.

— The Unitarian and Free Christian Men's League.

—:o:—

BELFAST CHAPTER

meets in the CENTRAL HALL, ROSEMARY STREET, at 8 p.m., Third Thursday of the month, October to May, inclusive.

OBJECTS (inter alia).

To encourage laymen to take a more active part in the work of the Churches.

To form a bond of union and closer co-operation between the members of the various congregations.

The Committee invite those who are not all ready members to join. The minimum subscription is 2/6, and further particulars may be obtained from—

MRS. V. COLVIN

35 Rosemary St., Belfast, Hon. Sec.

MR. J. EDMONDSON, Jr., Asst. Hon. Sec

19 Lime Street, Belfast

HISTORICAL NOTES.

(BY H. J. F. ORR).

John Templeton.

John Templeton, another member of the 2nd congregation, born in 1766, was undoubtedly the most outstanding botanist in Ireland in his day. Handicapped by lack of text books and other guides, he devoted his time to the study of the Natural History of Ulster, and corresponded with the leading botanists of England and other countries. His home, "Cranmore," Malone Road, now belonging to Royal Academical Institution, is one of few residences dating back to Tudor times, and where King William III. was the guest of John Eccles, on his way to the Boyne, it stands amongst rare trees and shrubs, which Templeton had received from some of his (botanic) correspondents abroad. He died in 1825.

The MacAdams, James, John and Robert Shipboy were the sons of James MacAdam, a hardware merchant, whose house in High St. is now the site of Mackenzie - Macmullan's. James, the eldest was a keen geologist. At the time of his investigations, railways were just being constructed and he had special opportunities for research. He wrote many papers on the results of his investigations and some were translated into German. He was the first librarian of the Queen's College, and selected the nucleus of the present collection of books. He took a keen interest in his old school 'Inst.' having had for his teachers amongst others James Thomson, Sheridan Knowles, Rev. Kincks. His father was one of the first subscribers to the Royal Academical Institution, and a committee man of the First Church.

Robert was also educated at the Inst. and for some time was its honorary secretary. He was a wonderful linguist —knowing over a dozen languages, a fluent speaker of Irish he made it his special study and published a Gaelic Grammar. He collected many old Irish poems and folk lore. Very fond of music he took an active part in forming the Belfast Harmonic Society, forerunner of the present Philharmonic. His brother John was not so prominent, but he too, was musical and for some time was secretary of the old Harp Society.

The Soho Foundry non-extinct was established by the brothers. All are buried in Newtownbreda Churchyard.

Students of Biography often notice how certain families become associated with one of the Sciences for generations.

The Burdens, Wm. and his son Henry, were Medicos of the fourth and fifth generations in their family — Hugenot descent, the family settled in Lisburn about 1675. William was born in India, and on the death of his parents, he came to Belfast when 12 years old. His three aunts, the Misses Burden, sent him to Dr. Bruce's Academy. After a short mercantile experience, he took up the study of medicine, getting his final degree in Glagow. He started practising in Newry, but after three years returned to Belfast, where he soon made a name for himself, and eventually was appointed a Professor on the opening of the Queen's College in 1849. Henry Burden was born, 16 Alfred St., in 1835. Like his father, he tried a mercantile position before taking up medicine, and as a student he won honours and scholarships. When 25 he was appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy in his Alma Mater—Queen's. Keenly interested in higher education he gave many public addresses on a variety of subjects, botany, chemistry, zoology, physics. He died in London, 1893.

Errata—Jan issue—Alexander Mitchell page 14—"screw jut" should be "screw pile."

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